



BAE proposes eliminating procedures for the appeal of exam contents following issuance of the CALE results. The Examination Committee recommended this change, believing the appeals procedures are unnecessary in light of (1) a BAE policy which allows candidates to identify problem questions immediately following the exam administration; and (2) the extensive review process employed by the Examination Committee prior to exam scoring.

Board staff plans to publish these proposed changes in January.

Consideration of Stamp Requirement. At its October meeting in Sacramento, the Enforcement and Practice Committee reviewed proposed statutory language which would require architects to stamp plans, specifications, and instruments of service.

The Committee discussed reasons for imposing such a requirement, including building officials' difficulty in reading architects' signatures. The stamp would contain the architect's name as well as a place for his/her signature. The Committee decided more information was needed and directed staff to survey building officials and other state boards and then to develop a list of pros and cons on the issue.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

To be announced.

ATHLETIC COMMISSION

Executive Officer: Ken Gray
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The Athletic Commission regulates amateur and professional boxing, contact karate, and professional wrestling. The Commission consists of eight members each serving four-year terms. All eight seats are "public" as opposed to industry representatives.

The current Commission members are Bill Malkasian, Raoul Silva, Roosevelt Grier, P.B. Montemayor, M.D., Jerry Nathanson, Thomas Thaxter, M.D., Charles Westlund, and Robert Wilson.

The Commission is constitutionally authorized and has sweeping powers to license and discipline those within its jurisdiction. The Commission licenses promoters, booking agents, matchmakers, referees, judges, managers, boxers and wrestlers. The Commission places primary emphasis on boxing, where regulation extends beyond licensing and includes the establishment of equipment, weight, and medical require-

ments. Further, the Commission's power to regulate boxing extends to the separate approval of each contest to preclude mismatches. Commission inspectors attend all professional boxing contests.

MAJOR PROJECTS:

Neurological Reports. At its October 16 meeting in San Francisco, Commissioner Thaxter presented an overview of the Commission's neurological examination program. The Commission requires boxers to undergo a neurological examination at least 72 hours prior to their first bout of the year. Currently, six medical offices throughout the state are under contract to administer neurological examinations.

The Commission has revised the examination over the past year, specifically delineating the pass/fail criteria; implementing modifications to eliminate ethnic and cultural biases; and translating the medical history portion of the exam into Spanish. Examining physicians can now not only recognize brain damage, but can discover deterioration in mental processes on a cumulative basis. In the future, Commissioner Thaxter suggested that physicians could perform studies over time to determine deteriorating brain function.

The Commission has lost two of its contracted physicians due to a common policy among insurance companies of excluding physicians who assume liability under a contract and/or render professional service to professional athletes. At least one leading insurer of physicians has requested that the Commission issue a list of the physicians providing service on its behalf. Executive Officer Ken Gray has asked the California Medical Association and a representative of the Senate Governmental Organization Committee to look into the matter.

Federal Regulation of Boxing. Ron Russo, the Supervising Deputy Attorney General assigned to represent the Athletic Commission, wrote a letter to U.S. Representative Pat Williams, the author of H.R. 134 and H.R. 2305, federal legislation which proposes to regulate boxing at the federal level. (See CRLR Vol. 7, No. 4 (Fall 1987) p. 39.) The letter criticized the bills for not going as far as they should or could, and for weakening expansive regulatory programs which already exist, such as the Commission's program in California.

On behalf of the Commission, Russo suggested that federal legislators create a central recordkeeping depository to prevent boxers from fighting in a juris-

diction after being knocked out, suspended for medical reasons, or retired in another jurisdiction. Second, Russo requested that Congress establish regulatory guidelines containing minimum federal standards which could be waived in favor of a state system which meets or exceeds the federal standards.

Budget. The Department of Finance recently disapproved a Commission budget change proposal (BCP) to increase the 1988-89 budget by approximately \$30,000. (See CRLR Vol. 7, No. 4 (Fall 1987) p. 39.) Six thousand dollars of the requested funds was intended to cover increased rent for the Sacramento office, while \$24,000 was requested to pay inspectors now assigned to monitor amateur boxing events. The Commission anticipates that the BCP will be approved as soon as it provides the Department of Finance with additional information.

RECENT MEETINGS:

At its December 4 meeting, the Commission adopted a policy to limit title fights to twelve rounds. The World Boxing Association recently reduced the number of rounds in its title fights to twelve, while the World Boxing Council reduced its title fights to twelve rounds several years ago.

Also at the December 4 meeting, the Commission decided to appoint a committee to establish medical standards for professional wrestlers. According to Executive Officer Gray, setting medical standards for professional wrestlers will be difficult, as many of the wrestlers are older and not in top physical shape, yet they have been wrestling for a living for many years. The committee will set forth uniform standards for use by examining physicians in determining when a wrestling match would pose immediate danger to a wrestler's health.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

To be announced.

BUREAU OF AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR

Chief: Martin Dyer
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Established in 1971 by the Automotive Repair Act (Business and Professions Code sections 9880 *et seq.*), the Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR) registers automotive repair facilities; official smog, brake and lamp stations; and official installers/inspectors at those stations. The Bureau's other duties in-